

## INTRODUCTION: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

#### **Conflict of Interest Policy**

The Washington State Investment Board adopted a conflict of interest policy for Board members and staff at its September 1992 meeting. (An updated copy is included in Section 2.00 of this Handbook.)

The policy brings together existing state law, Washington Administrative Code (WAC), and the Governor's 1992 Executive Order on Ethics. According to the policy, "This reflects existing state laws regarding conflict of interest and code of ethics and is intended to supplement and clarify these standards as it (the conflict of interest) applies to this agency."

The policy covers gifts, travel, personal investments, conflicts of interest, use of position, and sanctions for violations.

#### **Employment Restrictions**

RCW 43.33A.060 specifies that "No member during the term of appointment may be employed by any investment brokerage or mortgage servicing firm doing business with the State Investment Board. A trust department of a commercial bank or trust company organized under federal or state law is not considered a mortgage servicing firm for purposes of this section."

#### **References:**

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| RCW 42.52, Ethics in Public Service  | Appendix A |
| WAC 287-04, State Investment Board Administrative Rule, Conflict of Interest | Appendix A |